

COUNTRY Eastern Germany

REPORT NO. 25X1

TOPIC Military Information from Eberswalde

EVALUATION see below PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 18 April to 24 June 1952

DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 4 August 1952

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 4 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 25X1

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SOURCE 25X1

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 1. On 24 June 1952, the Schmetzen Kaserne in Eberswalde (N 53/V 08) quartered 700 to 800 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery, signal and motor transport insignia. A column of 18 model M-13 rocket launchers, 20 trucks and radio truck left the installation toward Finow at about 4 p.m. on 14 June.

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Jeeps 25X1 were also observed with the column which carried about 20 officers and 300 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia, steel helmets and carried folded blankets and rifles. The column returned to the installation at about 9 a.m. on 18 June. On 18 June at 11:30 a.m., 3 officers and 40 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia stood on the market square engaged in a map-reading exercise and terrain orientation with the help of prismatic compasses. At about 4:30 p.m., about 60 soldiers cleaned 12 x 120-mm mortars in the billeting area. On 23 June at about 2 p.m., about 50 soldiers practiced aiming with four rocket launchers in the barracks yard. On 24 June, an officers' meeting was held in the officers' club near the Schmetzen Kaserne. The following motor vehicles were parked in front of the club between 10 and 11:30 a.m.:

Sedans

Jeeps

Busses

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- 2 -

Motor vehicles observed in traffic to, and from, the barracks installation,

2. On 24 June, the western section of the Artillerie Kaserne was occupied by about 250 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and motor transport insignia. On 20 June, about 150 soldiers with rifles marched out of the installation to the target range on Trauer Chaussee. Eight 76.2-mm field guns were towed into the installation by about 70 soldiers at about 1 p.m. on 24 June. Motor vehicles

were seen in traffic to the western section of the barracks installation. On 19 June, the eastern section of the Artillerie Kaserne quartered a rear unit of about 250 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. About 150 soldiers were at drill with rifles near the installation at about 11 a.m. on 17 June.

3. At about 9 a.m. on 17 June, about 40 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia and gas masks and 24 soldiers with aiming circles and field glasses marched from the Maerkische Elektrizitaetswerk to the AA gun emplacement in forest section No 19. Night aiming practice at jet planes approaching the AA emplacement in the beam of a searchlight were repeatedly observed. At about 2 a.m. on 13 June, the troops were relieved in a total black-out. Motor vehicles seen going to, and coming from, the Elektrizitaetswerk

(3)

4. On 21 June, the supply depot on Kupferhammerweg received 2 boxcars from the Krietsch firm in Furzen consigned to Unit and 2 boxcars from the sugar refinery in Halle. Trucks made supply trips. At about 9 a.m. on 22 June, 40 new, pneumatic-tired field kitchens on flatcars were shunted into the depot. On 24 June, trucks picked up ration supply.

5. At about 11 a.m. on 21 June, the following trucks were parked in front of the army hospital on Oderberger Strasse:

They subsequently drove off with bandages.

6. Every second day, 2 refrigerator cars with meat for Unit Davidov arrived at the Eberswalde railroad station where the meat was unloaded onto truck. It was dispatched by Soviet Army. Templin, and consigned to Unit. On 20 June, trucks were loaded with rifle ammunition from 6 boxcars and left toward Bornauer Heer Strasse. At 4 p.m., about 160 technical sergeants and NCOs wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery, signal and motor transport insignia arrived on the regular passenger train from the direction of Templin. Upon assembling and being processed in the Maerkische Elektrizitaetswerk, they marched to the barracks installations in individual groups. They left again at 3:30 p.m. on 26 June.

7. Remittances made to the German bank included:

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SECRET, [REDACTED]

- 3 -

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8. On 19 June, the Schuetzen Kaserne was occupied about 50 percent by troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia and black-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia. A canvas-covered rocket launcher stood in the barracks yard. About 30 soldiers strung a telephone line on Tramper Chaussee using masts about 30 meters high which were unloaded from trucks [REDACTED] by soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets with motor transport insignia.

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9. The cantonment on Breitscheid Strasse was still occupied by a signal unit on 19 June. Trucks [REDACTED] each carrying 10 soldiers with black-bordered black epaulets, signal insignia and telephone equipment left the billeting area. (5)

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Comments.

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[REDACTED] the Schuetzen Kaserne is partly occupied by the HQ and headquarters units of the Fourth Gds Meez Army. [REDACTED] Those elements of the units absent from the installation may be carried at various troop training grounds in the Soviet Zone of Germany. Units of the 312th Gds RL Regt of the afore mentioned army were engaged in firing practice at Lieberose from 14 to 18 June 1952. [REDACTED] The mortars observed in the installation possibly belong to the 57th (?) March Regt of the Fourth Gds Meez Army. Although no exact records on the organization of the regiment are available, the regiment is believed to be the only unit in the Schuetzen Kaserne that could be equipped with mortars. Same source reported 20 x 160-mm mortars to have been in the installation in March 1952. [REDACTED] However, the guns were believed to have had a caliber of 120-mm or 82-mm rather than 160-mm.

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[redacted]

- 4 -

(2) Confirms previous information on rear units of elements of the 6th Gds Mecz Div in the Artillerie Kaserne. [redacted]

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(3) Source referred to the AA gun emplacement at Westendschule, south of Schulstrasse. [redacted]

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(4) [redacted]

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(5) The cantonment was last occupied to capacity at the beginning of May 1952. [redacted] The identity of the signal unit there has not been definitely determined. It belongs to the GOFI or to the Fourth Gds Mecz Army.

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(6) [redacted]

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SECRET [redacted]